

# Brethren Evangelist

Weekly Organ of the Brethren Church

A. D. GNAGEY, Editor

Address all communications for publication to the Editor. Communications relating to the business of the House, such as subscriptions, changes of address, etc., should be addressed to the Publishers, Brethren Publication Board, Ashland, Ohio.

Subscription Price, \$1.50 per Year

## Personal Mention

Brother Yoder recently held a few day's meeting at North Manchester, Indiana, and as a result of the effort, two accessions are reported. Brother I. B. Wright is doing some good work at that place.

"Easter Joys" by Brother Braker are a little late for that season, but they are not too late to do good. In fact Easter Joys are but the joys that should fill the heart of the Christian the year round.

Brother Ditch recently visited the class of Brethren at Sabetha, Kansas, where he found an earnest people, and tho small in number, they are hopeful of larger things. That they are not discouraged is evidenced by the fact that preparations are being made for the erection of a house of worship.

Brother L. A. Hazlett recently enjoyed a visit to the Shenandoah Valley, Va., where he did some preaching but owing to the extremely disagreeable weather prematurely closed his meetings. Brother Hazlett has resigned his work at Elk Lick, Pa., and on April 1 took charge of the Berlin pastorate.

Brother Elijah Berkey writes that he has read Brother Holsinger's History of the Tunkers and is greatly pleased with it. He thinks the book ought to be read by all the members of the three branches of the Tunker fraternity. Those who have read this book express themselves as well pleased with it, and we see no reason why it should not have a much larger sale than it has thus far had.

Special attention is called to the communication from Brother Holsinger. We regret very much the action taken by the representatives of the German Baptist church, in refusing an advertisement of the History of the Tunkers for the columns of the Messenger. If their action is deserving of any criticism, Brother Holsinger will take care of that. We trust there may be renewed interest in an effort to get this valuable history into the homes of all our people.

Recently Brother Flora visited Cerro Gordo, Ill., and from there went to Cornell, Ill., looking after the interests of the Brethren cause at that place. He says there are several good points on his route which he expects to look after. This week he is at Pleasant View, Indiana, starting the work in that congregation. Brother Flora is a busy pastor, a busy preacher and a busy man, caring not alone for the people of his own congregation, but for all who come within his reach. It is in this way that much home missionary work can be done and the kingdom of God enlarged. Brethren I. D. Bowman and J. C. Cassel have by this method reached

out from their own congregation, and built churches which have greatly strengthened the Brethren cause in the East. It requires a little self-sacrifice on the part of the stronger congregations who have engaged the pastor and pay his salary, but in the end there can be but gain and blessing to those whose love goes out in a practical way for the lost souls around them.

A few weeks ago Brother Wampler in his "Eastern Trip" made reference to a little boy, the son of Brother and Sister Wiison, of New Jersey, who tho but eight years old can repeat from memory the 23d Psalm and the Ten Commandments. It now turns out that the boy is but five years old. We have evidence here of Bible teaching on the part of parents which is entirely neglected in many homes. Moses gave instruction that the word of God should be taught diligently to the children. In this lies the hope of the church.

"New York Notes," always interesting, are especially so this week. Brother Gillin is coming in touch with every phase of human life and is able to speak from what his heart has been made to feel by what his eyes have seen. It is an awful condition into which humanity has fallen, indescribably awful, and yet one little word, very little, indeed, for it has but three letters, tells the sorrowing tale, the tale of woe, and pain, and anguish, of bitterness, of heart aches and heart breaks, of disease, impurity, helplessness, poverty, want, hunger, starvation and death—it is SIN, what an awful record it has made in this world. What wretchedness and crime and vice follow in the wake of that monster whose name is sin. But thanks be to God there is another word, not any larger in the number of its letters, but in power and almightiness infinitely larger,—it is GOD. And he, thru his Son Jesus Christ who came to seek and to save that which is lost, alone is able to rescue from the depths of shame and crime and vice and wretchedness into which sin has dragged humanity. Oh, that people would learn to trust him and live the higher and nobler life which trust and faith inspire.

Frequent reference has been made in these columns to the very excellent notes on the young people's topic prepared by brother C. F. Yoder. In reading the proof of the notes published in this issue we could not but think of the time and labor required in their preparation, and very naturally the question came to us, Are these helps sufficiently appreciated to justify the time and labor bestowed upon them? We know their value, and are persuaded that all who use them know the worth of them, but do our people generally know what there is in these notes for them? While we were yet thinking on these things, the mail brought us this letter from Sister Speck, Freemont, Ohio, where Brother Loose, late of the German Baptist church, cares for the interest of the Brethren: "Brother C. F. Yoder will never know how much his work is appreciated in the young people's department. I know they are greatly enjoyed in our home, and are far beyond any other helps we have ever seen. I can hardly wait until Saturday so I can get my dear EVANGELIST. I wish every family would take it." Brother Yoder will be glad to learn that his notes are helpful, not only where there are young people's societies, but in the home whose members are denied the privilege of attending such meetings. Every home into which this paper goes could be greatly benefitted by a proper use of the notes and scriptural references published each week in the young people's department.

The article by brother Samuel Lichty, Falls City, Nebraska, on "Going to National Conference," is a timely one. No, it is not too early to begin the work of our next National Conference. The program has already been published, or at

least an outline of it, sufficient to give the reader an idea of the rich treat there is being prepared for him. From this time on the work of the next next National Conference should constantly be kept before our people; pastors should begin now to arrange for their summer outing at Winona. If you expect to take a vacation sometime during the summer let that vacation be one week at Winona, or if your means allow it, ten days in attendance at the Bible Conference prior to the meeting of our own people amply repays the sacrifice necessary. The Brethren church is planning for large work, and every one who finds it at all possible should be present at this annual gathering of our people, not alone for the inspiration and the blessing which his presence will mean to him, but for the help he may be able to give in planning for the larger work to which the church is turning her attention. Brother Lichty's suggestions on another page are excellent, and we trust will receive, as they merit, the earnest consideration of the Kanemorado District. Let other districts take up the work and inaugurate an active campaign for the largest Conference we have ever had.

Brother A. R. Bemenderfer closed his work at Elkart, Indiana, prior to his coming to Ashland, with five accessions, a very fitting close of a work which has greatly prospered in his care. He and his family are now comfortably located in the College Hall, looking after the interests of that which, tho not the most important thing, is yet a very essential element in the student's life. Brother Bemenderfer was doing a good work in the gospel ministry in the State of Indiana, and to the good people of that State it may not seem the part of wisdom to leave the ministration of the Word in order to "serve tables," but it must not be forgotten that the work to which our Brother has been called is a very important one, and that, coming in close touch with those who go out from this place to do work for the Lord, he has an opportunity to impress upon these students his own personality in a way that may tell for much good. To have the care of from 25 to 50 young people, to encourage and help them in ways innumerable, to administer, in a kindly way, discipline when discipline is necessary, to select and have prepared for them the food that will add strength to the brain as well as to the muscle, surely this is not a small matter. We may hope that Brother Bemenderfer and family will find the work to which they have been called a pleasant one, mutually profitable, and to the interests of the brotherhood at large. Brother and Sister Keim have gone to their home in Louisville. Concerning their work we will have more to say next week.

## Quiet Observer

The article setting forth brother J. C. Cassel's views regarding pessimism which appeared in a recent EVANGELIST contained a statement that induces me to write somewhat concerning a prevalent erroneous idea. The sentence to which I refer is, "The most godly saint that ever lived, was but a pack of error and unrighteousness." Such is the conception many have of themselves as human creatures. It is repugnant I think to a trained mind and a heart cultivated in the graces of God. I cannot believe it true nor productive of a spirit of true humility.

It always annoys me to hear ministers speak of humanity in such terms as "worms of the dust." Human nature is no cheat. We are the offspring of God; in Him we live, move and have our being. We are created but little lower than the angels and belong by nature to God. Sin is an unnatural thing. When we sin we act against the law of our own nature. The prodigal son came to himself; in sin he was an alien from God and from his own